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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/805,006	03/18/2004	Mutsunori Igarashi	2102651-991140	7801
26379	7590	08/15/2006	EXAMINER	
DLA PIPER RUDNICK GRAY CARY US, LLP 2000 UNIVERSITY AVENUE E. PALO ALTO, CA 94303-2248			LAM, NELSON C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2825	

DATE MAILED: 08/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/805,006

Applicant(s)

IGARASHI ET AL.

Examiner

Nelson Lam

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5-18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03/18/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Responsive to communication of 03/18/2004. Application 10/805,006 has been examined. In the examination of 10/805,006, claims 1-4 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-4 in the reply filed on 07/19/2006 is acknowledged.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 4, the non-english characters need to be translated.

Appropriate correction is required.

4. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because abstract is a recitation of now withdrawn claim 5. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

5. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. **Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)** as being anticipated by Igarashi et al. (US Patent No. 6,436,804).

As per **claim 1**, Igarashi discloses an integrated circuit device including clock routing, comprising:

a first node (Fig. 2, #501; col. 2, line 35-54; col. 5, line 17-29; where a grid point is a first node);

a plurality of wires branching from the first node (Fig. 2, #401, #402, #403; col. 2, line 35-54);

a second node which first appears on a first wire of the plurality of wires (col. 5, line 17-29; Fig. 3; col. 8, line 57 to col. 9, line 5; where a second node is wiring grids intersecting each other); and

a wire connecting only to a third node which exists in a direction within angles of 90 degrees from an input direction of a signal inputted to the second node (col. 6, line 25-38; col. 6, line 43-56; Fig. 3; col. 8, line 57-60).

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As per **claim 2**, Igarashi discloses an integrated circuit device including clock routing, comprising:

a first node (Fig. 2, #501; col. 2, line 35-54; col. 5, line 17-29; where a grid point is a first node);

a plurality of wires branching from the first node (Fig. 2, #401, #402, #403; col. 2, line 35-54);

a second node which first appears on a first wire of the plurality of wires (col. 5, line 17-29; Fig. 3; col. 8, line 57 to col. 9, line 5; where a second node is wiring grids intersecting each other); and

a wire connecting only to a third node which exists in a direction within angles of 45 degrees from an input direction of a signal inputted to the second node (col. 6, line 25-38; col. 6, line 43-56; Fig. 3; col. 8, line 57-60).

As per **claim 3**, Igarashi discloses an integrated circuit device including clock routing for setting of a target delay (Abstract; col. 4, line 28-40; col. 16, line 12-17), comprising:

a node (Fig. 2, #501; col. 2, line 35-54; col. 5, line 17-29; where a grid point is a first node);

a next-stage node to which a signal is to be sent after the node (Fig. 13A-13C; col. 14, line 31-46; Figs. 16A-16D; col. 16, line 18-40); and

a combination of any of wires in directions at angles of less than 90 degrees from a straight direction connecting the node with the next-stage node (Fig. 3; col. 8, line 57 to col. 9; col. 6, line 25-38; col. 6, line 43-56).

As per **claim 4**, Igarashi discloses an integrated circuit device including clock routing for setting of a target delay (Abstract; col. 4, line 28-40; col. 16, line 12-17), comprising:

a node (Fig. 2, #501; col. 2, line 35-54; col. 5, line 17-29; where a grid point is a first node);

a next-stage node to which a signal is to be sent after the node (Fig. 13A-13C; col. 14, line 31-46; Figs. 16A-16D; col. 16, line 18-40); and

at least one wire in a wiring direction present in a quadrant of a straight direction connecting the node with the next-stage node (Fig. 3; col. 8, line 57 to col. 9; col. 6, line 25-38; col. 6, line 43-56).

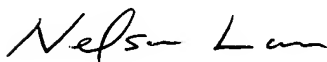
Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nelson Lam whose telephone number is 571 272-8318. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9am - 5pm.

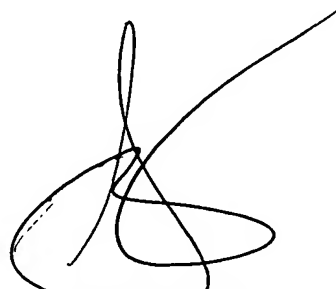
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Chiang can be reached on 571 272-7483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Nelson Lam
Assistant Examiner
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